

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

According to the present invention there is provided a body at least partially coated with one or more refractory layers of which at least one layer essentially consist of  $\alpha$ - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ . Said  $\alpha$ - $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  layer consists of essentially equiaxed grains with an average grain size of  $< 1 \mu\text{m}$  and with a bimodal grain size distribution with coarser grains with an average grainsize in the interval  $0.5 - 1 \mu\text{m}$  and finer grains with an average grainsize of  $< 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ . The  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  layer further contains striated zones containing titanium ( $> 5 \text{ at } \%$ ) but no nitrogen or carbon. This particular microstructure is obtained by temporarily stopping the gases needed for the growth of the  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  layer and introducing  $\text{TiCl}_4$ .